

Compiled by Dennis Roth

### ***Win ♥ Lose ♠ or ♣ Draw?: Gambling with America's Small Towns***

Patrick Long, Jo Clark and Derek Liston. Queenstown, MD: The Aspen Institute, 1994, 99 pages. ISBN 0-89843-161-1 (paper) \$10.00. To order, call 410-820-5326.

This book presents the results of a study of smalltown gambling in Colorado and South Dakota. These two States were of interest because they each implemented gambling differently. The book's goal is to present the key policy issues of smalltown gambling through the discussion of these two States. Included are discussions of State regulation, revenue collection and distribution, economic development assistance to the gambling industry, and social impacts. Only nontribal gambling is discussed, although the impact of American Indian gambling on a State's policy is considered. This book is part of The Aspen Institute's Best Practices Series of guidebooks for policymakers and development practitioners.

### ***Gearing Up for Success: Organizing a State for Rural Development***

David W. Sears, John M. Redman, Richard L. Gardner, and Stephen J. Adams. Queenstown, MD: The Aspen Institute, 1992, 67 pages. ISBN 0-89843-120-4 (paper) \$10.00. To order, call 410-820-5326.

*Gearing Up for Success* intends to "... provide states—and their rural development partners—with some guidance that will better enable them to create and implement successful rural development strategies." (p. vii) The authors provide a checklist of important items that should be considered by a state government before undertaking a rural development effort. The critical decisions that must be made are grouped into three categories: (1) setting the ground rules for planning rural development, (2) establishing relationships with other key public sector players, and (3) setting the ground rules for implementation. The authors discuss several examples of successful State rural development strategies. Also included is a discussion on how to effectively develop and implement rural development policies. *Gearing Up for Success* is part of The Aspen Institute's Best Practices Series of guidebooks for policymakers and development practitioners.

### ***Small Town America Community Development Manual: Methods and Procedures***

Howard McHenry: Harrisonville, Missouri: Citymark, 1995, 95 pages. No ISBN number (paper) \$25.00. To order, call 816-887-2112.

Citymark is a consulting firm that assists small towns and rural communities with community and economic development. In addition to counseling specific communities, Citymark offers seminars for community leaders. This manual condenses the information from the seminars and the experience of the Citymark associates into one volume. The manual focuses on evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of a community, provides sample evaluation forms and surveys, and includes discussions of attracting businesses, city ordinances, and tourism development.

### ***Funding Sources for Community and Economic Development: A Guide to Current Sources for Local Programs and Projects***

Oryx Press. Phoenix, AZ: Oryx Press, 1995, 725 pages. ISBN 0-89774-947-2 (paper) \$47.50. To order, call 602-265-2651.

This volume is a guide to grant programs for those seeking funding for community development projects. Over 1,600 funding sources are listed, with information current as of the publication date (February 15, 1995). Funding programs for economic development, housing projects, social services, and research grants are included, for both the United States and Canada. The guide includes an alphabetical listing of programs, then indexes the programs by subject, sponsoring organization, type of program, and geographic location. Also included is a 14-page chapter, "A Guide to Proposal Planning and Writing" by Lynn E. Miner. Oryx Press intends to publish a new edition of this guide with updated information each year.

### ***Business Finance As a Tool for Development***

Deborah M. Markley with Katharine McKee. Queenstown, MD: The Aspen Institute, 1992, 91 pages. ISBN 0-89843-112-3 (paper) \$10.00. To order, call 410-820-5326.

Development finance is "... providing capital to individuals, firms or communities in order to stimulate development in ways that support public goals while generating new economic activity." (p. 1-2) This monograph focuses on how States can effectively use business finance for economic development, and in particular, for development in rural areas. Rural areas may experience a credit gap, where businesses have less access to credit than those in urban areas. Different types of finance programs are discussed, and several examples of State programs are presented. *Business Finance As a Tool for Development* is part of The Aspen Institute's Best Practices Series of guidebooks for policymakers and development practitioners.

### ***City Fiscal Conditions in 1995***

Michael A. Pagano with Andrew Dudas. Annapolis Junction, MD: National League of Cities, 1995, 73 pages. ISBN 1-886152-10-1 (paper) \$30.00 plus \$4.00 shipping and handling. To order, call 301-725-4299.

This report presents the results of a National League of Cities survey on city financial conditions. Over 400 cities were surveyed including 46 towns that are designated in this report as "rural cities." Different measures of city fiscal conditions are presented, such as per capita revenue and expenditure, ending balances, and an imbalance index, which compares revenues with expenditures. The report presents the responses to survey questions on what revenue or expenditure actions had the city undertaken in the last year, and on how tax revenue or city debt had changed in the last years. An appendix explains the survey methodology.